15th December 1959]

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Sir, arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, what are the peculiar circumstances that obtained in Telengana as to justify the writing off of the takkavi loan? Do the same circumstances exist in our State also?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : The conditions prevailing in Telengana were really peculiar. For instance, it was represented that the loan amount had not actually been paid to the loanees prior to the Police action, that repayment had not been properly accounted for and ryots had not been asked by the Revenue authorities to pay the arrears of those years. So, under those conditions, it was thought that the loan arrears in Telengana might be written off.

Grand Anicut Canal

*201 Q.—SRI R. SRINIVASA IYER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Works be pleased to state—

(a) what are the dimensions of the silting up of the Grand Anicut Canal;

(b) when the silting up was first noticed;

(c) the action taken for getting over the silting trouble permanently; and

(d) to what extent the off-take of water by the Grand Anicut Canal has been affected by the silting up?

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN : (a) The dimensions of silting in the Grand Anicut Canal are 1 foot average and 2·5 feet maximum depth over the original bed level for a distance of 30,000 feet.

(b) It has been drawing silt into it right from the time the canal started functioning.

(c) Remedial measures to exclude silt from entering into the canal have been carried out then and there. These have not had full effect. The Irrigation Research Station at Poondi is also making model studies for the exclusion of silt permanently from the Grand Anicut Canal.

(d) Even though the bed is silted up, full supply for the present ayacut can be drawn in the canal.

SRI R. SRINIVASA IYER : When is this research which is said to be taking place for about 7 or 8 years likely to be finished? When will Government come to a decision as to what steps should be taken for so improving this canal as not to draw off any more silt at least?

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN : I cannot say anything now. The Irrigation Research Station at Poondi is making studies for exclusion of silt permanently from the Grand Anicut Canal. I think as early as possible it will be taken up.